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The Bates Student

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WEDNESDAY January 16, 2013

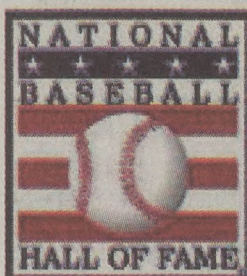
Vol. 142, Issue 9

Lewiston, Maine

FORUM

Who should be allowed into the Baseball Hall of Fame?

Alex Daugherty '15 gives his opinion why steroid users should be allowed into the Hall of Fame



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Lydia O'Brien '15 sits down and gets personal with the fun-loving members of the Bates College Manic Optimists



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'Cats hold off furious Bowdoin rally for a 67-64 win



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Bates debate "breaks" at worlds



Catherine Djang '13, the Bates debate club vice president, debates in Berlin, Germany. — THE BATES DEBATE CLUB

KATIE SGARRO
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Bates Quimby Debate Council has reached new heights. Over winter break the team travelled to Berlin, Germany for the 33rd World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) held at the Technische Universität Berlin. Over a week of competition, the Bates debate team performed strikingly well at the largest international debate tournament in the world.

"Bates A", consisting of the team's president and vice president, seniors Ben Smith and Catherine Djang respectively, had one of the best finishes in recent Bates College history. The pair advanced to the elimination round. The only other American teams to advance to the knockout stage were from Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and Stanford. "[It was] a tremendous accomplishment and honor," said Djang.

To say that "breaking" at worlds is a big deal would be a gross understatement. In a tournament that attracts 400 teams from around the world, advancing to the elimination phase is a prestigious and noteworthy accomplishment.

"The actual experience of debating in an elimination round was also exhilarating because the level of debate was so high and we had a crowded live audience," said Djang.

In addition, recent Bates alumnus Colin Etnire '12 was able to enjoy his former team's success in Germany as well as achieve individual recognition from the tournament. Etnire attended the debate as an independent adjudicator and was chosen to be on a panel of judges for the Grand Final between the last four teams, a distinguished honor.

Rhetoric professor Jan Hovden, the team's coach, and sophomore Taylor Blackburn also traveled to Berlin as judges. Each was selected as the head judge for various rounds in the tournament.

The team also sent a contingent of teams to the internationally recognized Oxford and Cambridge tournaments during the fall semester.

Djang and Smith, sophomore Matt Summers and senior Eric Devaux, along with juniors Emily Schwalbe and Stephanie Wesson were selected for the Oxford tournament. All three teams were very successful with each finishing in the top 25% in an internationally prestigious field.

Blackburn and senior Virginia Flatow along with sophomores Alex Daugherty and Ben Claeson attended the Cambridge tournament.

Yet despite the club's high standards and the pressure of fierce international competition, the Bates Quimby Debate Council remains a close-knit group. Consistent with the college's emphasis on inclusivity, the club welcomes any interested student regardless of his or her previous debate experience.

"It's rare for a team to be so successful and at the same time so inclusive. Most of our peer institutions have team tryouts and cuts, but we accept all interested students and work on all levels of skill development. People who join do so out of a desire to participate in intellectually stimulating discussions, hone rhetorical abilities, and learn about important contemporary issues," said Djang.

The debate team also had a successful first semester on the American Parliamentary debate circuit and in British Parliamentary debate tournaments.

Blackburn and Summers finished fourth at the Harvard Debate Tournament, the largest tournament of the year.

At the University of Vermont tournament, Bates sent three teams to semifinals and two teams to the final round. Sophomore Jill Zook and junior Jack Stewart advanced to the semifinals. Daugherty and Claeson placed third overall and Schwalbe and Wesson finished second in a great team performance.

Bates sent two more teams to the elimination rounds at the Brandeis Interservice Tournament. Blackburn and Summers along with Smith and Djang each reached the semifinals.

The Bates Quimby Debate Council is a wonderful manifestation of the benefits that can come from promoting inclusivity — an esteemed value at Bates College since its founding in 1855 by abolitionists. The Bates debate club continues to be one of the most successful teams on campus. The team is ranked 14th in the country and 19th internationally.

The team will send six more debaters to Ireland this semester. Seniors Flatow and Kate Fetrow, juniors Vic Silwa and Stewart, and sophomores Zook and John Goodman will take the journey across the pond. Additionally, the team will send some of its new debaters to Stanford in March.

Anxious to see the Bates debate team in action? Attend the 2013 American Parliamentary Debate Association Tournament, March 15th to March 16th, hosted by the Bates Quimby Debate Council. The team's first-year debaters will also be in action this Sunday, January 20th in the annual novice tournament.

MLK day events explore how economics and social justice connect

GRACE PEZZELLA
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

Each year for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Bates College celebrates with a series of events and workshops centered on a connecting theme. This year, the theme is Debt and Inequality: The Relevance of King's Forgotten Economic Message.

Beginning this Sunday and lasting through Monday, Bates will host feature films, workshops, and performances by Sankofa, as well as two addresses by Anthea Butler, a theologian whose work studies the connection between Sarah Palin's politics and religion.

The two feature films on Sunday are called *The Corporation* and *Sacred Justice: The Orangeburg Massacre 1968*. The first explores the notion of the corporation as a legal "person"; just what kind of person is it? The second focuses on a college shooting in which three African American students were killed by white police officers. Sunday's events conclude with The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service with a Homily by Anthea Butler entitled *God and the 99 Percent*, followed by a reception and book signing.

Monday begins with the keynote address ceremony, whose speakers include President Spencer, Professor Charles Nero, and Anthea Butler, who will speak about American poverty in her speech *MLK and America's Bad Check: America's Poor in the 21st Century*. Afterwards, students will have a chance to discuss Butler's address in smaller groups facilitated by faculty, staff, and other students.

The Africana Club is sponsoring a presentation called "Walter Rodney and 'How Europe Underdeveloped Africa', and students from educational studies have put together a program called "A Growing Divide: The Cost of Educational Inequity".

In the afternoon, the Bates Quimby

Debate Council will face off in its annual debate against Morehouse College. This year's topic is whether or not the government has a responsibility to enact policies that fight poverty.

"The debate is a great tradition between two schools concerned with social justice and I think the topic of what should government's obligation to low-income citizens be is especially pertinent in our current political climate," said senior and debate team President Ben Smith.

Bates debates with Morehouse every year because of the connection that former Bates graduate and Morehouse College President Benjamin E. Mays forged between the two schools. Mays was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s mentor.

Seniors Cat Djang and Virginia Flatow will participate in the debate for Bates.

The rest of the afternoon is devoted to two sessions of workshops that focus on topics such as exploring financial literacy in Lewiston-Auburn, looking at the link between economic challenges, social justice, and athletics, how Chinese migrants are portrayed in film, and how we can better live the mission statement of our college. There will also be a performance by Aaron Calafato called *For Profit* in the Gannett Theatre.

In the evening, Sankofa will wrap up the day's events with their performance "A Rose by Any Other Name". While this brings a close to the official activities, the spirit of the day continues through Wednesday, where Bates faculty, staff, and students will visit the Martel School in Lewiston to share a book with a student there for a Read-In.

Tickets are required for the debate and Sankofa performance, but are free.

For a full schedule of events, or to learn more about Sankofa or Andrea Butler, and to reserve free tickets for the debate and performance, check out the Bates website.



ANSLEM SAMUEL / GETTY IMAGES

My Bates-funded trip to Patagonia, Argentina

CATHERINE TUTTLE
STAFF WRITER

I first heard about the Bates Barlow Grant from a now-alumni friend that traveled back to Germany during February break of his senior year to conduct research for his history thesis. When he told me about the unreal deal (Bates paying for him to return to his study abroad country to peruse museums, stay in hostels, and meet fellow travelers), I knew I had to figure out a way to do the same.

But after living in the exhilarating Buenos Aires metropolitan for over five months, I felt I had exhausted the city. I had successfully site-saw almost everything and knew the neighborhoods, the bus routes, and the "subte" (subway) like the back of my hand. I enjoyed my classes at three different universities in the city and loving my caring, generous host family. Of course I look back on Buenos Aires as a city very dear to my heart but I wasn't thrilled at the idea of running back to that crazy city. I also was having a hard time thinking of an appropriate thesis topic that could tie in

Buenos Aires.

According to the Off-Campus Study website, "David Barlow established the Barlow Endowment for Study Abroad to enhance study abroad for Bates students and faculty. Mr. Barlow '79 (a sociology major) studied in the United Kingdom and found his year abroad to be a powerful learning experience, both inside and outside the classroom. This generous gift to the college provides opportunities for Bates students to enrich their study abroad programs, to link them more closely with their academic program at Bates, and to share their experiences with the rest of the campus and community."

Dean Sawyer explained that this program has a long history and is very unique to Bates. He sees the thesis research grants as an extremely affirming experience for a student to be able to return to a foreign country and "recognize how much they know and how much they learned." When asked about past research projects he has overseen, Dean Sawyer says it's hard to pick out any few extraordinary projects because they are all so individualized and "wonderfully imaginative."



The amount of Barlow Thesis Research Grants awarded per year fluctuates:

In 2009-2010: 22 grants
2010-2011: 19 grants
2011-2012: 12 grants
and this year, 2012-2013: 7 grants
The grant stipulates that the student must travel back to the country studied

in. In my own experience, I thought of all the places I had visited in my eight carefully planned trips throughout South America, from the grandiose waterfalls to the deserts, the mountains, and lastly, the Patagonian icebergs. When I reflected on all of those adventures, the place I was most eager to return to and investigate further was Patagonia.

Patagonia covers a huge expanse of South America and during my semester abroad I only visited two towns, El Calafate (to see the Perito Moreno Glacier) and El Chalten (for the rugged Patagonian hiking experience). There were other places in Patagonia I did not have the time nor funds to visit during my first taste of South America — namely, Bariloche (more Northern Patagonia) and Ushuaia and Tierra del Fuego (the bottom of the Earth, the most southern tip of the continent).

So I fixated on the idea that I wanted to research Patagonian travel writing. At the end of my junior winter semester, I met with Professor David George in the Spanish Department because he is the faculty member specializing in travel writing. When I told him about

my experiences in Argentina, he encouraged me to start investigating the topic over the summer and that during the fall we could put together a Barlow Grant application.

Fast-forward to senior year and quite a few things have been accomplished: I applied for and received the Barlow Grant and I purchased a round trip flight from Portland, Maine to Ushuaia, Argentina during this past Thanksgiving break.

But why Ushuaia? And what exactly did I investigate? During the fall, as I began to read travel narratives through Patagonia, I realized that almost everyone made it to and wrote about Tierra del Fuego, or the end of the world. So as a place I had yet to explore, I made Ushuaia my destination. Before leaving, I recorded important quotes from eleven authors that wrote about Ushuaia and while there, I presented some of these pieces of information to either travelers or locals to see how they interacted and dialogued with antecedent travelers and Ushuaia locals.

I questioned whether travelers are

See PATAGONIA, PAGE 4

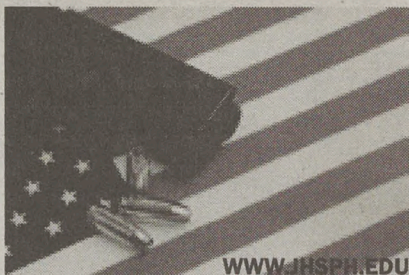
Wanted: effective U. S. gun control policy

CURTIS RHEINGOLD
CO-MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

Six months after the mass shooting in Aurora, CO, and a month removed from the Newtown, CT, massacre, the Obama administration is finally considering legislation to improve federal gun control laws in the United States. A task force led by Vice President Joe Biden has been discussing options such as increased background and mental health checks for firearm purchases, improving techniques for tracking the sales and movement of guns via a national database, and instating more severe penalties for firearm-related crimes.

These changes would seem to appease the NRA and others that oppose gun bans since these measures do not restrict the types guns or ammunition that can be purchased. However, minor speed bumps for the purchasing of guns are not sufficient. Biden and the rest of the task force must realize that such a debate requires more than appeasement. There must be a drastic change in U.S. gun control policy in order to prevent further mass shootings and reduce the staggering gun homicide rate – a rate that is ten times higher in America than in any other NATO country.

Such an emotionally charged debate requires an objective, evidence-based approach. However, NRA seems unable to understand this. A week after the Newtown shooting, the NRA released a statement that recommended the placement of “armed police officers in every single school in this nation”. Vice President of the NRA, Wayne LaPierre, echoed this sentiment in a press conference by stating, “[t]he only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy



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with a gun”.

Unfortunately for the NRA and other supporters of increased gun presence, the relevant statistics suggest that such an approach would be wholly ineffective. According to the Harvard Injury Control Research Center (HICRC) that specializes in researching and promoting effective gun policy, a review of academic literature reveals a clear trend: “where there are more guns there is more homicide”. This relationship holds true both intra- and internationally. Across the U.S., states with higher levels of gun ownership had higher levels of both firearm homicide and overall homicide. Across developed nations, the same trend exists: countries with more guns have more homicides. *Note: see <www.hsph.harvard.edu/hicrc/firearms-research> for the relevant data.*

This trend is very clear when comparing the United States to Great Britain, two similar countries with drastically different gun laws. Great Britain has strict firearm laws with only 6.7 firearms owned per 100 people, while the U.S. has 88.8 firearms per 100 people. Accordingly, in 2009 there were only 18 gun homicides in Britain (0.03 per 100,000 people) while in the U.S. there was an astounding 11,493 gun homicides (3.75 per 100,000 people). *Note:*

numbers from <www.gunpolicy.org>.

It seems clear that the NRA’s suggested increase in gun prevalence will not be an effective measure at reducing gun violence. While it is possible that it may help to curb school shootings, one must not forget that Columbine High School had an armed guard on campus during the 1999 shooting that claimed the lives of fourteen students. One must also not forget that mass shootings are not restricted to schools, as evidenced by the December 11th mass shooting at an Oregon shopping mall.

Since more guns equal more gun deaths, the only reasonable policy option is to reduce the overall gun prevalence in the United States. The measures being considered by Joe Biden would certainly be a great start. But in addition, the Federal Assault Weapons Ban (AWB) that expired in 2004 must be revived. The law restricted the manufacturing of certain semi-automatic guns and enforced a limit of ten rounds of ammunition in a magazine. Admittedly the AWB was not as effective at reducing gun crime as was originally hoped, but this was mostly due to two glaring flaws. Firstly, the law’s overly conservative definition of an “assault weapon” led to the banning of only 18 specific firearms and allowed for gun manufacturers to modify weapons just enough to get around the ban. Secondly, the AWB did not address the fact that there were millions of assault weapons still out there. The AWB only banned weapons that were manufactured after the law went into effect; any weapon or “high-capacity magazine” bought beforehand was still legal.

See GUN CONTROL, PAGE 3

On Compromise

SCOTT OLEHNIK
CO-MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

With Congress’s approval rating hovering just around 14 percent, I think it is safe to say that what many people would like to see in the new session of Congress is compromise. However, compromise is often problematic, and, as Paul Krugman said in a recent New York Times article, “implying a symmetry between Republicans and Democrats, isn’t just misleading, it’s actively harmful.” And this is something we need to recognize. In any effort to compromise on anything, there has to be some semblance of equality among the sides. However, it is often the case that one side is actively fighting to subvert the other for little more than perceived political gain.

But, compromise shouldn’t be a dirty word, nor should we just say that one party is right over the other—no matter how my articles may make it sound. After all, unilateral action can have unintended and deleterious consequences.

Let’s take a look at current events, though. The recent, and so-called, “fiscal cliff” fiasco illustrates just what I am talking about. In this case, the crisis was manufactured in the sense that the effort for compromise was essentially a steeplechase. Each time some ground was gained, the bar would be moved by Republicans in the House of Representatives. I was a big advocate for going over the “cliff.” After all, the effects most likely wouldn’t have been immediate, and the overwhelming majority of Americans would have blamed the GOP for the failure to accomplish something. The backlash would have been swift, and the judgment harsh. Something would have been easily done.

This is where Krugman’s statement about both sides having equal footing becomes important. It was clear throughout the entire drawn-out process that Republicans wanted nothing more than to punish the President for winning the recent election. This is politics at its most reckless. Legislating for nothing more than spite does no good for anyone.

So, what’s the solution? First, we need to recognize that in this case not every side is working for what is best for the American people. Am I saying that the GOP has some ulterior big-business motive? No. I’m not a conspiracy theorist, but I do believe that a hefty portion of the proposals that they make have not been shown to be, overall, beneficial. After we recognize this simple fact, then action becomes possible, and we can shun the offer, counter-offer strategy which failed us in December.

On the other side of things, the recent shooting in Connecticut shows the necessity for compromise. The NRA crawled out of its hidey-hole mere days after the tragedy to have Wayne LaPierre make the bold suggestion that, “The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.” I guess it’s no matter that many Latin and South American countries do, in fact, have many more “good guys with guns,” and do not have an appreciably lower violent crime rate to show for it, according to the New York Times.

But snarkiness aside, the NRA has been tearing down barriers for gun owners for years now. For many, this is quite positive, but another large portion of the public would argue, and I would tend to agree, that the proliferation of guns in our country is one of the biggest public health issues that we face today.

This is where compromise comes into play. There is a middle ground here, and, as much as I hate to say it, each side has a valid argument. We can have our cake and eat it too in this case. Do we need assault weapons? Do we need high-capacity magazines? Do we need the capability to fire almost 100 bullets in mere minutes, killing 26 adults and children with brutal efficiency? No, unequivocally we do not.

Compromise has become a dirty word in recent years, and it’s no surprise why; there hasn’t been any. There is a time for compromise and a time for unilateral action, but knowing when it is time for one and not the other is the big trick. I advocate for smarter politics. I advocate for conversation and intelligent discourse, not politics for politics sake. We deserve better, and we can do better.

The misperception of marriage

NERISSA BROBBEY
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

Marriage is the official declaration of the love between a couple, an indication of settling down and a safe time to bear and raise children. As much as the romance aspect of marriage is true for many I believe there is an overall misconception about the purpose of marriage. There is a less romantic side to it as well; filled with discriminatory issues, sexual-social restrictions and duty. The concept of marriage has evolved so often that people wonder as to whether it is useful or not.

So what is marriage? Marriage by definition is a legal contract between two individuals that binds them until annulment. In the eyes of the law it clearly assigns property, inheritance, and social rights within the members of the unit. That’s all. The signing of the contract in itself does not improve or degrade the emotional bond between two people unless they want to, and it does not guarantee a lifelong union or determine happiness.

Marriage, in my opinion, only became a first-comes-love-then-comes-marriage matter in the Western world in the last century or so. Before that marriage for many people was a business deal. I marry you so we can bring together my plot of land and your livestock to build our lives around and we have children so that our hard work will not be lost. It was a deal decided by those who were not members of the couple and the pair obeyed out of duty. This culture still exists in more traditional parts of the world with arranged marriages taking up 60% of all world marriages.

Marriage is one of those social institutions that has harbored discrimination for centuries. “I don’t think mar-



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riage itself is elitist, it’s the people in the government that are elitist,” says Nesli Deniz ’12. We are fortunate to have so many of those barriers broken down today. I think marriage was, and in many cases still is, an elitist affair. There is the matter of social class and background that can prohibit a union.

Inter-racial unions were frowned upon for far too long. I have met parents who panic at the sound of their Orthodox daughter eloping with a Roman Catholic. The most modern argument has been on gender. The laws regarding who has the right to co-sign documents with whom have changed over time. The reason behind such varieties of discrimination is associated with divine and biblical regulation. Then I ask myself: do we even have the right to be so restricting and so in awe of something so manmade? Of all the creatures of this earth, we are the only ones who observe marriage. Marriage is the result of civilization and not nature. Love is what is natural and it can be expressed without

legalities.

Marriage is one of those tools that has been used to undermine and confine women. It has restricted sexual behavior and put fear into people. Modern marriage, like many other aspects of our lives, has become commercialized. The wedding industry rakes in \$40 billion every year. Even people of modest means save up for years to put together the whitest and the most extravagant of occasions. It has been overhyped.

We are fortunate to live in a time when it is socially acceptable and possible to recreate the emotional and legal benefits of marriage without actually getting married. Separations can be less cumbersome and messy. As a result, we can all live lives that suit us best. Marriage is on the decline and its necessity is being debated. “People seem to me to prefer an open dating life to, at least, at the moment. Thus marriageable partners who are interested are very hard to find and keep,” says Eric Devaux ’13.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Where do we go from Newtown?

DAVID WEINMAN
STAFF WRITER

The horrific massacre in Newton, Connecticut last month has ignited a national debate about gun control. In response, President Obama has pledged “meaningful action” on this issue and appointed Vice President Biden to head a federal gun violence task force whose recommendations will be released on January 15th. With the highest murder rate in the industrialized world, surely something must be done to address this crisis. However, lawmakers should reject the tendency to blame this problem solely on America’s high rate of gun ownership.

Other nations such as Israel and Switzerland have relatively relaxed gun regulations, yet extremely low gun murder rates. Many gun proponents have pointed to Great Britain, where private gun ownership is banned and murder rates are relatively low, as a model for the United States. However, this example is misleading; the murder rate in Great Britain actually increased after handguns were made illegal. Gun control advocates must face the reality that other factors are driving the high levels of violence in the United States. Any attempt to ban guns would not only violate the second amendment but likely strip law-abiding individuals of the right to protect themselves while ignoring armed criminals who have already demonstrated a willingness to break the law.

Fortunately, most proposals have rejected the idea of an outright ban. Instead, many have suggested that President Obama push congress to reinstate or expand the 1994 assault weapons ban which expired in 2004. However, this action would have a futile impact on gun violence and likely waste crucial political capital, which would be better spent in other areas. As Ben Lovitz ’15 noted, “It’s unlikely that an assault weapons ban could pass due to stiff resistance from Republicans and some Democrats.” According to a 2004 University of Pennsylvania study, the ban could not be credited with any “recent drop in gun violence.” Despite their military-style appearance these weapons are not any more lethal than many hunting rifles and are used in only a small percentage of crimes. Similar efforts to ban types of magazines are also unlikely to have any real impact. Shooters will simply purchase multiple magazines.

Other proposals to prevent these weapons from falling into the wrong hands have more merit. For example, many guns are now purchased at gun shows where background checks are not mandatory. Closing down this loophole, along with stricter penalties for illegally purchasing firearms and a national database to track the movements of these guns are all reasonable ideas which should be considered.

However, in order to truly consider

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Forum >>
ALEX DAUGHERTY
Editor-In-Chief

Should steroid users be allowed into the Baseball Hall of Fame?

As an avid baseball fan, I'm angry. I'm Angry with the Baseball Writers Association of America (BBWAA) for producing a ridiculous hall of fame ballot. Writers across the country inappropriately acted as the morality police by keeping suspected steroid users and others with no connection to steroids out of the hall of fame.

For the first time since 1996, not a single player was given enshrinement to Cooperstown.

Now, since this is a Forum piece and not a Sports piece, I'll spare you the boredom of having to hear my whining about Kenny Lofton falling off the ballot or former Red Sox pitcher Aaron Sele actually receiving a vote.

The central question about the Baseball Hall of Fame vote this year is: how do we as a society view athletes who used, or may have used performance enhancing drugs? The answer that the BBWAA has produced is that anyone who played in the steroids era (roughly ten years between 1995 and 2005) is guilty of cheating the game and does not possess the character of a worthy hall of famer.

This answer is absurd.

There are plenty of men enshrined in the hall that failed to meet this lofty moral standard. Gaylord Perry "doctored" the baseball by using Vaseline to increase pitch movement. Ty Cobb was a virulent racist who sharpened his spikes before games to maim opponents. Even Hank Aaron used performance-enhancing amphetamines throughout his career.

Steroids, on the other hand, were



San Francisco Giants' Barry Bonds after hitting his 756th home run. **DANNY MOLOSHOK/REUTERS**

completely legal in baseball until 2005. The only player on the ballot who tested positive for steroids was Rafael Palmeiro, and he has gained little support among hall of fame voters. Every other player on the ballot, including Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens, never tested positive for steroids when steroids were illegal.

Okay, so players like Bonds, Clemens, and Mark McGwire most likely used steroids (McGwire has admitted to doing so) but they never broke a rule. Still, even when that moral standard is applied it is still absurd to think that players like Mike Piazza, the greatest hitting catcher of all time, and Craig Biggio, a member of the 3,000 hit club,

would be refused entry by the all-powerful BBWAA. Neither of those players have any connection to steroids use.

If it isn't clear by now, I am fully in support of players like Bonds, Clemens, and potentially Mark McGwire gaining entry to the hall, regardless of steroids. None of them broke the rules throughout their career and in the case of Clemens and Bonds, were already hall of famers before any potential steroid use.

I realize many might not agree with the logic that the best players on the field gain enshrinement and that character must come into play, but by that standard there is no reason not to induct Biggio, Piazza, and Jeff Bagwell.

The problem only intensifies next

year when many high-profile players including Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine, and Frank Thomas, join the ballot. Writers who continue to pull stunts like submitting blank protest ballots and voting solely for undeserving candidates like Jack Morris undermine the Hall of Fame's viability and meaning.

Steroids in sports have been, and will continue to be, a huge issue. The fact that testing today can actually catch steroid users and can test for a multitude of drugs means that fewer athletes will be willing to risk the penalties and public scrutiny that come with a positive test.

Professional leagues like Major League Baseball should set a standard

of changing the drug culture in sports and showing young athletes that performance enhancing drugs are detrimental to themselves and the game. However, certain players should not be barred from the hall of fame simply based on when they played.

The hall does not bar players like Babe Ruth who gained their fame and statistics during a time period when African American players were not allowed to play, which by virtue of numbers makes it easier for white players to succeed.

Giving at least a partial voice to the fans, say 5% of the overall vote, would make writers accountable to public opinion when assessing Hall of Fame candidates. I'm pretty sure most baseball fans regardless of how they feel about steroids would have voted for Piazza, Biggio, and Bagwell.

It's the least that could be done to assuage my anger.

MY HALL OF FAME BALLOT:

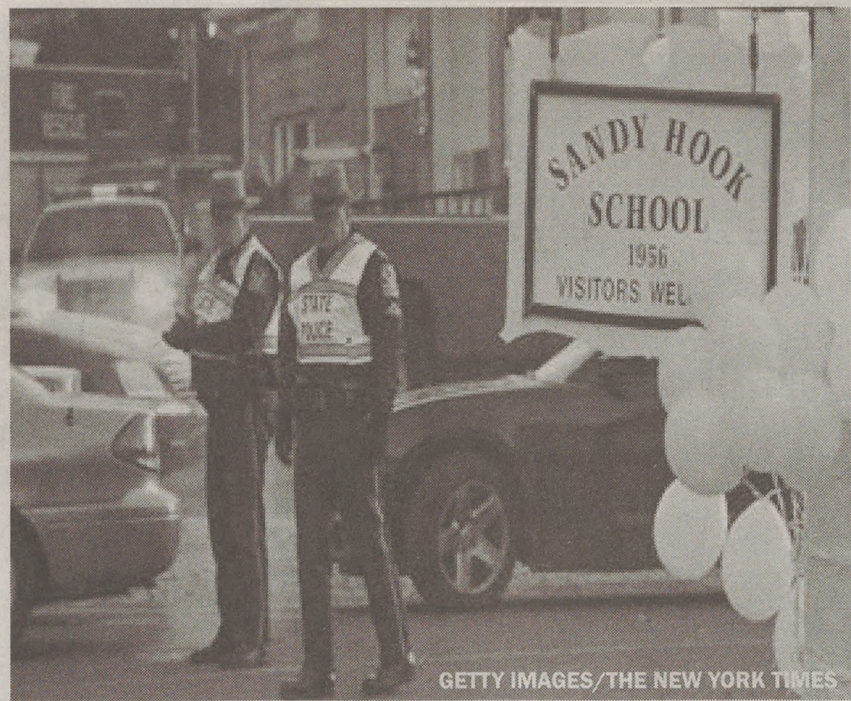
- 1) BARRY BONDS
- 2) ROGER CLEMENS
- 3) MIKE PIAZZA
- 4) TIM LINSLEY
- 5) CRAIG BIGGIO
- 6) JEFF BAGWELL
- 7) LARRY WALKER
- 8) EDGAR MARTINEZ
- 9) CURT SCHILLING
- 10) ALAN TRAMMELL

NEWTOWN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

steps which could actually make a difference in preventing the next mass murderer, it is important that we move past just the issue of gun control. Shortly after the Newtown shooting, Liza Long posted an essay titled *I Am Adam Lanza's Mother*, in which she described her

challenge of raising a mentally ill son who has shown an inclination towards violence. In the piece she informs her reader that her only option for dealing with her son is to get him arrested because "no one will pay attention to you unless you've got charges." Surely more can be done to deal with people who have these types of psychiatric issues before a terrible tragedy occurs.



GETTY IMAGES/THE NEW YORK TIMES

GUN CONTROL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Therefore, the U.S. should also institute a buyback of all semi-automatic weapons – a measure that was extremely effective at reducing gun crime rates in Australia.

In 1996, a mass shooting at an Australian resort prompted the passage of a ban for all semi-automatic weapons, as well as a buyback program in which the government bought over 600,000 weapons from its citizens. In a recent Washington Post blog post entitled "Did gun control work in Australia?", Dylan Matthews succinctly summarized the resulting public health benefits in Australia: firearm homicides dropped by 59 percent between 1995 and 2006 with no increase in non-firearm-related homicides; robberies involving a firearm were significantly reduced; the number of home invasions did not increase, suggesting that firearm prevalence is not an effective deterrent for such crimes; and finally, there have not been any mass shootings since the law was passed (there were 11 in the previous decade between 1986 and 1996).

Moving away from gun policy, the oft-mentioned issue of mental illness and guns (while certainly pertinent) has been inappropriately exploited in

the wake of the Newtown shootings. The mainstream media was quick to jump to baseless conclusions, especially in regards to rumors that Adam Lanza, the gunman, had been diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome. While this alleged diagnosis has yet to be officially confirmed, Asperger's has never been linked to violence. In fact, a statement from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services released in response to these allegations cited several studies that suggest that those with Asperger's and autism are less likely to engage in criminal behavior than the general public.

Even other mental disorders such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder are not considered to be reliable risk factors for violent crime, nevertheless mass shootings. In 2006, the American Journal of Psychiatry published a study entitled "The Population Impact of Severe Mental Illness on Violent Crime" that investigated whether there was any link between violent crime and schizophrenia or other psychoses. After tracking almost 100,000 patients for 13 years, the study concluded that the risk factor for patients with severe mental illnesses was five percent. In other words, patients with such an illness commit only one in twenty violent crimes.

Bringing up mental illness in a gun control debate is merely a distraction

from the real problem. The "debate" about increasing the mental health checks for gun purchasing is only a red herring used to avoid the tougher conversations.

David Hemenway, director of the HICRC, wrote the following in a column for the Huffington Post:

"Too often I have seen policy makers make decisions about guns which were dictated not by the scientific evidence but rather by emotion and special interests...this their policy decisions have often reduced rather than promoted public safety".

Similarly, the United States is at a crossroads between scientific research suggesting a need for decreased gun prevalence and an opposition that relies on appealing to personal liberties. The available data and precedence suggest that stricter licensing laws leading to a decrease in gun prevalence and a ban on semiautomatic rifles would both contribute to a reduction in gun homicides. President Obama and Congress have an opportunity to enact legislation that would undoubtedly save countless innocent lives over the next few decades. Unless the necessary legislative changes are made, America will simply be forced to continue the unfortunate discussion of gun control after the next mass shooting.

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Faculty meeting kicks off new semester

GRACE PEZZELLA
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

The beginning of the new semester brought the first faculty meeting of 2013. Held on the first Monday of every month, faculty meetings are a forum in which members of the voting faculty and some members of the Bates community can discuss important departmental and school-wide issues.

"Voting faculty" includes the president, deans, chief financial officer, registrar, librarian, principal assistant librarian, professors, associate professors, assistant professors, instructors, lecturers, and visiting professors.

Other members of the College community, including professional librarians, the director of equality and diversity resources, the director of career development, and the college chaplain (among others) may attend the meetings as non-voting observers. Similarly, three students appointed by the Bates College Student Government and three students who sign up individually may attend certain meetings.

This meeting began with the Action Reports from the Educational Policy Committee, which discussed the Bates College Statement on Academic Integrity. This includes the College's strict plagiarism policy, a hot topic for any educator. Faculty members discussed the importance of syllabi.

"Parts of Monday's faculty meeting were quite fascinating," said Dr. Theri Pickens, Assistant Professor of English, explaining that syllabi are technically legal documents, meaning that they represent a binding agreement between a professor and his or her students at the start of each semester, not just an outline of the course.

New business included the announcement of the 2013 Kroepsch Award for Excellence in Teaching, as well as a report from the Student Conduct Committee regarding Student Activities last fall. Also, the faculty discussed sabbatical and replacement updates and analyzed course enrollment. The last scheduled topic of discussion was the outline of EMS and their services, brought forth by the Bates Emergency Medical Services Club.

Not everything on the agenda at faculty meetings becomes legislation. In order for a topic to be placed on the meeting's agenda, it must be proposed a month in advance. Then, the process calls for two readings of a proposed change.

Shareen Gustin, the Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Faculty, explains, "After discussion at the faculty meeting on the second reading, the legislative document is voted on by the majority of faculty attending the meeting. The votes can be done by show of hands, verbal or ballot, depending on presenters asking for the vote. If the legislative document is passed then the appropriate changes are made." The faculty handbook is updated each summer.

Next month's faculty meeting will be held on the first Monday of February.

Questions? Concerns? Curious about how the process works? Contact Professors Jane Costlow and Lynne Lewis, the Co-Chairs of the Committee on Faculty Governance.

Student Conduct Committee recap

Each semester, the Student Conduct Committee brings forth the cases that were adjudicated during the previous semester. The following are incidents that recently took place and the committee's response to those incidents.

Incident Date: **May 4, 2012**

Charge: A student was charged with unacceptable social behavior by virtue of violating the College's Drug and Alcohol Policy on or about May 4, 2012.

Outcome: A Disposition by Agreement was accepted by the co-chairs of the Student Conduct Committee on September 5, 2012. The elements of the agreement stipulate a one semester suspension effective Fall 2012 semester, eligible to return Winter 2013 semester. The student will remain on probation with a one year suspension held in abeyance if found guilty by the Student Conduct Committee of any future acts of social misconduct. Furthermore, the student is not allowed on the Bates campus during their suspension period unless the student has special permission from the Dean of Students Office.

Incident Date: **September 25, 2012**

Charge: A student was charged with academic misconduct by virtue of plagiarizing a thesis proposal on or about September 25, 2012.

Outcome: The Committee found the student guilty of the charge. The penalty of the Committee was 1) Suspension for Winter 2013 semester, eligible to return Short Term 2013; 2) Probation for the remainder of the student's career at Bates with expulsion held in abeyance should the student be found guilty of any future acts of academic misconduct; and 3) Required to complete 20 hours of community restitution. Furthermore, the student is not allowed on the Bates campus during their suspension period

unless the student has special permission from the Dean of Students Office.

In addition to the penalty, the Committee provided the following rationale. "The Committee feels that academic integrity is central to the functioning and purpose of such educational institutions as Bates College. The fact that such a seemingly successful senior finds himself so profoundly in violation of the accepted practices of intellectual honesty is surprising and deeply distressing to the members of this Committee. Such deceit undermines our ability to function as a learning community because it undermines the core educational mission of the College.

We find the student's actions in this case both egregious and flagrant. We do not find his claim that he made an honest mistake credible, and even if we did, it would not absolve him of responsibility for appropriating someone else's text. The verbatim nature of the borrowed text would be acceptable in no department at any college in this country. The student's refusal to take any responsibility for his actions disturbed the members of the committee even further. The fact remains that 60% of the senior thesis proposal was appropriated word-for-word from other sources, and, moreover, without proper attribution (these are separable infractions). The Committee hopes that this enforced time away from the academic pressures of Bates will allow the student an opportunity for some profound self-reflection. We recommend that he pay particular attention to re-assessing his understanding of the purpose of tertiary level learning."

Incident Date: **November 15, 2012**

Charge: A student was charged with unacceptable social behavior by virtue of violating the College's Drug and Alcohol Policy on or about November 15,

2012.

Outcome: A Disposition by Agreement was accepted by the co-chairs of the Student Conduct Committee on December 3, 2012. The elements of the agreement stipulate a one semester suspension effective Short Term 2013 semester, eligible to return for Fall 2013. Furthermore, the student is not allowed on the Bates campus during their suspension period unless the student has special permission from the Dean of Students Office. The student will also be placed on probation with a one year suspension held in abeyance if found guilty by the Student Conduct Committee of any future acts of social or academic misconduct.

Incident Date: **Various Dates - Fall 2012 Semester**

Charge: A student was charged with unacceptable social behavior by virtue of providing false information to a University official with intent to deceive and misrepresent in order to gain access to a service. Both of these violations occurred while studying abroad from July 2012 to November 2012.

Outcome: A Disposition by Agreement was accepted by the co-chairs of the Student Conduct Committee on December 12, 2012. The elements of the agreement stipulate probation for the remainder of the student's academic career at Bates College with a one semester suspension held in abeyance if found guilty by the Student Conduct Committee of any future act of social or academic misconduct. In addition, upon the student's return to Bates College next semester the student is required to meet with a counselor in the Health Center to discuss this incident and to follow up on any recommendations they may make.



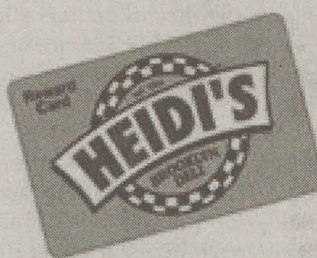
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PATAGONIA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ultimately indebted to each other in a sort of "travel community" via travel writing. In reading the narratives, I discovered that each writer successively built off of and used the descriptions of the place from travelers before them to craft their own experiences.

Now, almost two months later, I'm back at Bates and ready to use all of the

information I collected (including 82 video clips) to put together my thesis. I can't give away too many details about my findings because the final project will be presented at the Mt. David Summit. But if you're a junior returned from abroad, first-year, or sophomore interested in studying away someday, be sure to consider the possibilities of a Barlow Thesis Research Grant to enrich the connection between your semester abroad and your academic goals at Bates.

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tuesday

BIG PRIZE BINGO

8 pm - Gray Cage

wednesday

FAMILY FUN/INFLATABLES

4-8 pm - Gray Cage

A CAPPELLA 10 pm - ???????????

thursday

STUDENT VCS

9 pm - BMC

KARAOKE & REFRESHMENTS

11 pm - 1 am - ???????????

friday

LATE NIGHT BREAKFAST

11:00 pm - 12 am - Commons

POKER NIGHT

8 pm - 12 am - ???????????

saturday

90's DANCE

10 pm - 2 am - Library Arcade

WINTER
CARNIVAL
2013

007
Bobcat, Bates Bobcat





A Love Song for Humanity:

“The Thinking Heart”
at Schaeffer Theatre

LILY CHRISTINE
STAFF WRITER

From the real-life stories of Elie Wiesel's *Night* and Anne Franks's diary, many accounts of World War II feature real-life survivors of the Holocaust who fought against enslavement in the concentration camps. The heroine of “The Thinking Heart,” however, made the unusual decision to enter the camps by choice.

“The Thinking Heart: A Performance in Two Voices with Cello” is a musical reading of poetic variations written by Martin Steingesser, who was inspired by the profoundly poignant life-story of Etty Hillesum.

Etty was a young Dutch woman who chose the concentration camps over liberation during World War II to remain with her people and family. Despite harsh conditions and the devastating horror of the Holocaust, Etty's enduring compassion and earnest optimism shines through her extant journals and letters, which have been collected in the book *An Interrupted Life*.

It was from these written accounts that Steingesser drew his inspiration.

While reading her words, Steingesser says, “poems started to leap out at me.” The performance featured the voices of both Steingesser and Judy Tierney, accompanied by the cellist Robin Jellis. It was presented on the part of the Bates College English and Theatre departments and as a continuation of the Language Arts Live initiative.

The performers took to the stage, a single bell chimed, and the story, described by Steingesser as a sequence of still-life moments in Etty's life, began in Amsterdam.

The harmonious verses of the piece portrayed the sensuous beauty of human life seen through Etty's eyes; eyes that opened themselves fully to a passionate vision of nature and writing.

A particularly moving line read, “I poured out the tenderness,/all the tenderness/one cannot express/even for a man one loves./I poured it all out/into the great, all-embracing spring night.”

In the face of great suffering and risk, Etty endured the camps to bring

her love and support to others. Jellis' cello provided a vivid pathos as its deep strains evoked mourning, melody, and emotions as tangible as a racing heartbeat, the suspended notes of an instant. Stories of Etty's young love life in Amsterdam flowed seamlessly into the food shortages and sicknesses of the barracks, but Etty's eyes never forgot the beauty of a blue sky. Steingesser and Tierney's voices shared in perfectly pitched evocations.

The last communication of Etty Hillesum was found beside the rails of a train track that carried Etty and her family away to another concentration camp in September of 1943. Etty died in Auschwitz. She was twenty-nine years old. The performance was followed by a discussion of the experiences of both the audience and the performers.

“I really liked the performers; it was evident that each one of them had a close connection to Etty, to the piece as a whole, and to each other,” said sophomore Julianne Hopkins. “They

really made the performance come alive with their passion for this project.”

Another audience member, sophomore Juwon Song, observed, “Somehow, with the music, you could visualize Etty and her life situation more and relate to her as someone who actually lived.”

Other members of the audience were moved to relate their active interests in writing to the writing expressed by Etty in her letters.

It is such performances and efforts on the part of writers and artists that help keep alive stories that should never be lost to history. Etty's message reaches out and touches an audience seventy years after her tragic death. Her experiences are preserved and memorialized by such words and music.

“The Thinking Heart” is poetically musical and musically poetic. It is the love song of one woman's compassionate heart: a strength of spirit conveyed by music and an ardency for nature and humanity poured into poetry.

Sarah Wainshal '16 brings vintage chic to the 'Cats campus

ASHLEY BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

The season of Winter Carnival is upon us. The white blanket of snow left over from December storms still covers the Quad and a strong, cold breeze blows around the Chapel. Despite this bitter cold, first-year Sarah Wainshal never fails in dressing to impress.

Her plum Anthropologie sweater tops a black skirt from a San Francisco thrift store, cinched together by a wide black belt. Her black Timberland boots and Modcloth leggings make this outfit winter acceptable and totally chic.

Even in her younger years, Wainshal always had a love for fashion. Her mother would dress her in frilly dresses and bows throughout preschool. This Batesie was so fond of her attire that she refused to finger-paint in fear of messing up her outfit.

During her transitions into both middle school and high school, Wainshal began to realize, “that the real purpose of one's clothing isn't to impress other people, although it definitely doesn't hurt, but more to make you feel more confident and happy with yourself.”

This attitude continues to be Wainshal's reasoning behind her fashion choices today. A strong believer in the phrase, “If you look good, you'll feel good,” she feels that if she is proud of what she's wearing, her confidence will be projected to others.

Wainshal would describe her fashion as a bit more formal than her peers. Much of her wardrobe consists of skirts and dresses that emanate the vintage feel of the 50s and 60s. She appreciates how clothing from this time period balances a sense of both class and flirtatiousness.

Because Wainshal enjoys dressing in such an intriguing way, the outfits simply fall into place without much effort.

Wainshal loves combining cowboy boots, her fashion must-have, with skinny jeans or dresses. She believes that with a pair of boots, an outfit can be easily dressed up or down to suit any occasion.

This Bobcat's idol for fashion how-to is Hollywood celebrity Jessica Chastain. Wainshal looks up to Chastain for her effortless clean-cut outfits with a touch of vintage embellishment.

As for local inspiration, Wainshal feels that her hometown of Westport, Connecticut does not influence her fashion choices at all. People either go for an edgy or preppy look to their clothing, making Wainshal definitely one out of the ordinary. “However,” she says, “our proximity to New York City allowed me to be exposed to all sorts of different styles which allowed me to find one that I felt fit my personality.”

You can find this Batesie splurging at Anthropologie and Free People or surfing through the endless pages of vintage dresses on Modcloth.com.

Looking into the future, Wainshal believes that for the most part her style will stay the same. “Obviously, some of the younger-looking outfits I have will need to be retired, but a lot of the kinds of clothing I like can be worn by different age groups,” she states.

So catch Sarah Wainshal strutting her vintage style down the Alumni Walk runway, at a choir concert, and taking center stage at the Theater Department's upcoming production of *The Swaggering Damsel*.

STYLE SPOTLIGHT



Book Review:

Instant: The Story of Polaroid
by Christopher Bonanos

BAILEY STONECIPHER
STAFF WRITER

The Polaroid is a cultural artifact widely referenced in popular media and music. Established in 1937, the Polaroid revolutionized the world of photography by making film accessible to the masses. When the digital wave came in, Polaroid refused to go digital, wanting to retain its original essence. *Instant: The Story of Polaroid* tracks the transformation of the camera from film to digital.

Late in his life, Polaroid founder Edwin Land explained one of the keys to his remarkable success: “My whole life has been spent trying to teach people that intense concentration for hour after hour can bring out in people resources they didn't know they had.”

Instant: The Story of Polaroid, a new book about the history of the Polaroid camera company, draws a blatant connection between Land and Steve Jobs. The Apple patriarch once named Land as one of his greatest inspirations. Both men dropped out of college at an early age to pursue technological careers and almost single-handedly developed and marketed revolutionary technological products.

Bonanos sharply describes Polaroid's origins by discussing the company's boom during the Second World War from developing goggles and other combat equipment. The writing chronicles the process that led to the simple question, “Why can't I see the picture now?” that inspired Land to create an instant camera.

Land, known for his ability to invent overnight, “originally conceived the concept for the camera with his daughter in 1943, and had worked it

See Book Review, PAGE 9

6 Arts & Leisure

Q&A with the Manic Optimists

LYDIA O'BRIEN
ASSISTANT ARTS & LEISURE EDITOR

Throughout the first semester, The Bates Student interviewed many a cappella groups throughout campus. This week, the fun-loving guys at the Manic Optimists sat down to share their thoughts about performing and working as a group.

The Bates Student: *When were the Manic Optimists founded, and what's the story behind the name?*

Robert Charpie: There were four guys who started the group in 2004 who didn't get into the Deansmen and then a bunch of guys joined.

Danny Birkhead: It started as an improv/sketch comedy-a cappella group originally.

TBS: *Is it hard to learn the style of a cappella if you haven't done it in high school, even if you're good at singing in general?*

Mark Charest: I think it's easier, because when you do choir in high school, there's a lot more of a rigid structure to it, and going into a cappella is easier after that.

TBS: *How often do you arrange new songs?*

Nick Strunc: Honestly, new songs are always in the works.

TBS: *What are some artists whose songs you frequently use? What genre do you typically turn to?*

Grady Hogan: Unfortunately we end up doing a lot of Maroon 5 and John Mayer.

Cody Tracey: And I'm saying fortunately we do a lot of Maroon 5 and John Mayer.

Grady Hogan: And I'm shaking my head.

TBS: *What are some of your favorites that you've done?*

Danny Birkhead: "Knife" and "Nantes" are everyone's favorites.

TBS: *What events have you done so far this year?*

Grady Hogan: We did a tour! We went to Smith College, Connecticut College, BU, Northeastern...We just sort of crashed on floors and couches and rode around in a mostly functioning van. Smith College was the best. We



Robert Charpie '15 leads the ManOps in a spirited Alumni Gym performance. www.facebook.com

did our regular songs. Conn College was also really fun, and we learned some of their songs too.

TBS: *Do you like performing on-campus or off-campus better?*

Grady Hogan: On-campus, definitely. We like to perform for our people.

Robert Charpie: Bates is the best crowd.

TBS: *Do you prefer doing solos or being in the background?*

Zaq Shabman: I love being in the background because I love being with the boys, but solos are fun because you get to put your own spin on the song.

TBS: *When did you last record for an album?*

Grady Hogan: We have a brand new CD coming out this spring, unofficially named Post-Chordal Bliss. Come to our concerts to get hold of a CD. Within a month and a half the CD will be in every freshman dorm room.

TBS: *Do you try to stick to a "dress code" or unified look for concerts?*

Grady Hogan: We have what's called Man-tire: jeans, button-down shirt, tie, any color suit jacket, any shoes...

Jonah Greenawalt: Shoe variety is encouraged, in fact, we try to contrast to the style of the Deansmen and have collections of different attire.

TBS: *What made you decide to try out for the ManOps rather than the Deansmen or the co-ed groups? What do you think is unique about the ManOps?*

Robert Charpie: I loved the energy of the group. I wanted to be in a guys' group where there's a lot of camaraderie and it seemed like a bunch of goofy-fun guys, and that's what I'm all about.

TBS: *What do you think Bates students don't know about you?*

Max Alley: We didn't see Pitch Perfect.

Grady Hogan: We would love to have female members, but we never got any auditions.

Jonah Greenawalt: I think even though we put a huge emphasis on the flashy performance aspect [during concerts], we spend just as much time on musicality.

TBS: *What's the best part about being in the Manic Optimists?*

Max Alley: The best part of being in the group is MOFOs, ManOp Fun Opportunities.

Danny Birkhead: MOMMs, or ManOps Mini Moments, which is when we'll sneak in to the library or Pgill and sing a song. Also, I love being revered by the entire student body.

Grady Hogan: Hanging out with the boys. There's no drama, it's all fun. As soon as you're in the group, you've got twelve new friends.

The Guilt Trip succeeds as a funny, feel-good comedy

3.5 / 5
Bobcats

JEN BUTLER
STAFF WRITER

Bogged down by the work accumulating in all of your classes? Feeling blue about the long, cold, winter days ahead? Looking for a way to escape your worries and to laugh until your stomach hurts? If so, then grab a friend and head to a movie theater to see "The Guilt Trip" starring funnymen Seth Rogan and the witty Barbara Streisand.

"The Guilt Trip" chronicles the life of Andy Brewster (Rogan), an independent salesman, who is struggling to make ends meet selling his environmentally friendly cleaning product. Andy's initial plan to travel across the U.S. alone selling his cleaning products is quickly foiled after a visit to his mother, Joyce (Streisand), who guilt trips Andy and squeezes an invitation from him to join the road trip.

As anyone can imagine, driving cross-country with one's mother is no easy task. Andy finds himself regretting his decision to invite his mother almost immediately after the trip begins. Andy and Joyce find themselves in some hilariously awkward situations throughout the course of their trip. Naturally they get on each other's nerves along the

way, but the trip also successfully brings them closer together.

The film is by no means the best in theaters, and Streisand's and Rogan's acting is far from Oscar worthy, but it has the ability to be entertaining for the entire hour and a half in the movie theater.

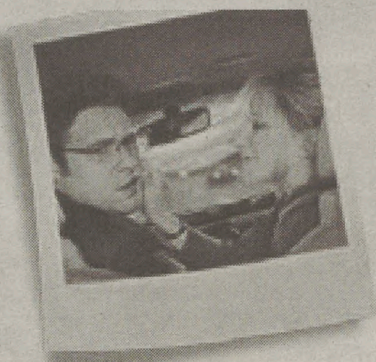
Streisand's portrayal of Joyce's overbearing nature and extreme financial frugality are so strikingly real that it is sure to remind viewers of their own relatives once in a while, and Rogan's chemistry with Streisand seemed very natural. The movie's plot, albeit a bit predictable at times, is enjoyable to watch and convincingly heartfelt.

Surprisingly, the film is devoid of the raunchy comedy that characterizes most films of the same genre today, such as "The Hangover" and "Knocked Up." As a result, The Guilt Trip is much more family-friendly than most other recent comedies. Those who enjoy films with some rough humor but without vulgarity would appreciate the film.

The Guilt Trip only scored a 5.2 on Rotten Tomatoes, but Hollywood.com rated the film three-and-a-half out of five stars and gave it a generally positive review.

Boston Globe writer Ty Burr writes, "The movie is silly, predictable, and surprisingly sweet... The Guilt Trip is tripe, but it's tripe that knows its audience." Additionally, movie critic Jenni Miller notes, "Streisand and Rogan's chemistry keeps The Guilt Trip going... the smaller moments are what sing, even if they're a little sappy."

Even though the film did not receive the stellar reviews and Oscar nods that it was perhaps hoping for, it is worth the time if one is in search of a light, feel-good comedy. You might find yourself unexpectedly touched by the ending.



BOOK REVIEW

Continued from PAGE 7

out of his system in a few hours. Except for those few problems it took from 1943-1972 to solve." Land befriended photographers and artists and persuaded them to use his new camera with his considerable charisma and by offering them free film and equipment. One of the earliest and most loyal adopters was photographer Ansel Adams. Adams produced some of his most famous pieces—including *El Capitan* and *Sunrise*—on Polaroid film. He was also influential in the development of a professional grade Polaroid camera, the Type 55, which, unlike most other Polaroid cameras, also produced a reusable negative print.

Andy Warhol also used a cheap version of a Polaroid camera called the "Big Shot" to take the photos on which he based his famous celebrity screen prints.

The likes of Marilyn Monroe, Elvis, and Elizabeth Taylor sat for Warhol while he photographed them on Polaroid film.

At the dawn of the digital revolution, even when executives at Polaroid saw digital photography coming, Polaroid, unlike Apple, was unwilling to cannibalize its current product by developing a new product that might be more competitive.

Digital came along killing all things analog, and in 2008 the company ended production of Polaroid film. Luckily, the next generation of photographers and artists are growing up with a nostalgic affinity for the gadgets of their parents and grandparents generations. Polaroid camera look-alikes and film knock-offs, like vinyl records, are as ubiquitous today and embraced by the hipster generation. Bonano's well-researched and succinct book introduces the history of the influential Polaroid to a new group of young

Les Misérables: A Broadway legend hits the silver screen

MARY ANNE BODNAR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Towards the end of *Les Misérables*, a heart broken Maurice (Eddie Redmayne) revisits the massacred apartment that once acted as congregating place for him and his revolutionary friends. He speaks a truth that encompasses the director Tom Hooper's vision in creating this production of *Les Mis*; "There's a grief that can't be spoken."

It's true, there is some sorrow that is too difficult to speak of; however, singing when there is no legitimate emotional motivation to do so detracts from the emotional potency in other parts of the film.

Based on the 1862 novel of the same name by Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables* follows the story of Jean Valjean (Hugh Jackman), who breaks his parole and is ruthlessly pursued by policeman Javert (Russell Crowe). Valjean vows to change, and adopts and cares for a dying prostitute's (Anne Hathaway) child Cosette.

Nine years later, Maurice pursues a matured Cosette (Amanda Seyfried) while simultaneously helping to lead the French revolution of 1832. Seemingly complex, the two and a half hour run time allows the audience ample time to establish intimate relationships with the characters and the dramatic turns and declines they encounter. It is a story that offers an opportunity to experience, through song, universal human emotions, such as vengeance, grief, shame, determination, angst and love.

Directed by Tom Hooper (*The King's Speech*), this production of *Les Misérables* is first and foremost a musical. As few as thirty lines of dialogue are spoken during the two hour and thirty minute period. As Mr. Hooper has made clear in numerous interviews, the musical performances in the film were not prerecorded. Apparently, this allows



for the actors to engage more freely with their characters on every take.

It is possible that by committing to a more organic filming environment, Mr. Hooper felt compelled to incorporate song whenever humanly possible. As a result, the musical performances in the first half of the film (with the exception of Ms. Hathaway's and Mr. Jackman's solos) feel unnecessary and forced on the characters.

"It's an essential part of the film because it is the music that tells the story," says Maya Cates-Carney '16 in defense of the incorporation of song in the film.

The first half of the film unquestionably belongs to Ms. Hathaway. She fully embodies the role of the desperate and maltreated Fantine.

"The most impressive part was Anne Hathaway's decline from her purity to selling sex on the street. We've seen a lot of graphic things on TV and in the media, but in that scene, it was just so wrong. The solo afterwards finalized the moment and almost brought tears to my eyes," shared Jake Henderson '16.

It is rare that an actress can maintain a frame as long as she does in "I Dreamed a Dream". Hathaway fills the screen with painfully accurate depictions of visceral distress and defeat, and

not once do we believe that she is the same actress who debuted as Princess Mia in "Princess Diaries" a decade ago.

Cinematographer Danny Cohen allows us to engage with characters at their most vulnerable from a comfortable though still affecting length. The theatrical use of tracking shots, the occasional fish eye lenses, and the slanted camera angles are at the very least more appropriate here than they were in *The King's Speech*.

The infusion of youthful spirit in the second act marks the start of the *Les Misérables* that inspires, not depresses us, as viewers. The emotionally turbulent lives of the young and eager French revolutionaries is impossible to ignore as they attack parades and chant triumphantly from the top of carriages.

It is only in the second half of the film when song seems to flow the most freely from both the main characters and the chorus. Although audiences must endure a few painfully over directed scenes in the first act, the impressive solo musical performances and inspirational youthful uprisings provide enough reason to sit through this pop culture phenomenon.

4.0 / 5
Bobcats



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Men's squash looks to rebound from three game skid

KYLE OLEHNIK
STAFF WRITER

After starting their season 6-1, the men's squash team stumbled during a tough road trip on which they faced two of the top three teams in the country.

It could have been the long Christmas break. It could have been the pure dominance of their post-break opponents. Whatever it was, the Bobcats men's squash team couldn't keep their early season winning streak alive.

With a strong freshman class and a core of experienced upperclassmen, the Bates team started off the season in strong fashion at 6-1 before hitting the road for a three-game trip against some of the top competition in the country.

Their first stop was in Boston to face Harvard and Ali Farag, the defending individual national champion. Farag matched up against Bates' freshman phenom Ahmed Abdel Khalek, handing the first-year his first collegiate loss. Khalek did manage to win a set in the match, despite dropping to 4-1 on the season.

"It was a classy match, I have known Ali for a while," noted Abdel Khalek. "The crowd was intense, everyone was rooting for both of us," he added.

Another notable score of the match was sophomore Jason Shrubbs, who secured the other set win against Harvard

co-captain and senior Jason Michas.

After only Khalek and Shrubbs won sets in Cambridge, the team then hit the road and traveled to Hartford to face perennial national champion Trinity.

Although Khalek won an impressive point at the No. 1 spot in five sets (8-11, 9-11, 11-8, 11-9, 11-6), the rest of the match was a dominating Bantam victory. Bates sophomore Andy Cannon also won a set for the Bobcats and nearly tied his match at 2-2, but eventually fell 3-1.

"The atmosphere was much different [at Trinity] than Harvard," noted Abdel Khalek. "Completely opposite."

The team finished up the road trip in Williamstown, Massachusetts against Williams. Khalek was once again the lone Bates player in the way of a shut-out, as he defeated Trinity's No. 1 Nick Marks and improved to 6-1 in his young career.

Even though the Bobcats lost 8-1, they played many close matches.

Senior R.J. Keating played a tough five-set match to Greaves-Tunnell of Williams, and fellow senior David Born took a narrow five-set setback in the exhibition match. Andy Cannon came from behind in his match to take a 2-1 lead, but lost in five.

The Bobcats return home for their home opener against Amherst on the 15th followed by a 9 AM match against Cornell on January 19th.

Men's Basketball Beats Colby, Loses to Bowdoin in OT Thriller

DOUG STEINBERG
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Bates men's basketball faced a tough road trip this past weekend, traveling to face NESCAC opponents Colby and Bowdoin on Friday and Saturday. The Bobcats convincingly defeated Colby 66-56 behind a strong defensive performance, but lost a heartbreaker to Bowdoin on Saturday, as the Bobcats were edged 61-60 in overtime.

Against Colby, the Bobcats played solidly in each facet of the game and continually frustrated Colby's scorers. Bates kept Colby from penetrating into the paint throughout the game, and forced the Mules to take contested jump shots from the perimeter.

"We were definitely able to keep Colby from getting into a rhythm offensively," explained senior captain and guard Mark Brust.

Colby shot a mere 6 of 24 (25 percent) from three-point range, while the Bobcats repeatedly attacked the basket, drawing fouls and getting to the free throw line. Overall, Bates went 17 of 21 on free throws.

Bates committed only four turn-

overs for the game, while forcing Colby into ten turnovers. The easy points contributed to Bates' lead never being seriously threatened, and the Bobcats coasted to victory.

Senior co-captain and center Ed Bogdonavich led the Bobcats with 19 points while shooting 50 percent from the field. Brust also played well, contributing 10 points, while junior forward Sean Cunningham dished out a team-high five assists.

The second game of the weekend turned out to be Bates' second overtime loss to Bowdoin on the year.

The Bowdoin defense stifled Bates' penetration for the most part, but good shooting from junior guard Luke Matarazzo and sophomore guard Adam Philpot (two of three from behind the arc) kept Bates in contention. Matarazzo had a strong game offensively, scoring 19 points, including five of ten shooting from three-point range.

However, Bates failed to convert key offensive opportunities at the end of regulation and overtime that would have sealed the win.

The Bobcats missed three shots at the end of regulation, and held a lead late into overtime before allowing Bow-

doin to hit the game-winner with eight seconds remaining.

Brust had a decent look at a runner to win the game, but was called for an offensive foul with under a second remaining.

"We played with great energy and executed our sets very well. Although we came up short against Bowdoin, we battled for every minute. Games like that are what bring a team together, especially a young team like us," commented Matarazzo. "In the NESCAC, anybody can beat anybody on any given night, so it's all about getting better every weekend. If we manage to communicate a little better on defense and knock down a few more free throws, we'll be a dangerous team."

By splitting these weekend games, Bates moves to 6-10 overall, tied for eighth in the NESCAC. However, Bates still has yet to play the majority of its NESCAC games, and after a strong performance, the Bobcats certainly expect to be able to move into the top half of the conference and compete in the league playoff bracket.

Bates next hosts Connecticut College on Friday at 6:00pm in the Alumni Gym.

Men's and women's swimming sweeps Norwich, falls to Middlebury

ALEX HENRIE
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Following a strenuous eight day training trip to Florida, the men's and women's swimming and diving teams finished their winter break in Northfield, Vermont, enjoying a cakewalk over Norwich University before falling to Middlebury.

The men wasted no time in blasting the Cadets 225-74. They were led by Andrew Buehler, Venkatesh Duvvuri, and Andrew Briggs, who all won multiple events.

Another contributor in the win was Matthew Gagne, who set a pool record in the 100 IM in 55.64.

Sophomore Andrew Seaton scored his first career victory in the 50 breast in a time of 29.62.

The women were even more dominant; they boasted a 200-point margin of victory, taking the meet 224-24.

The veteran Bobcats were the story

of the day, as seniors Catherine Sparks, Tara Dugan, and Katy Zingale all won their events.

Sparks continued her strong season with wins in the 50 breast in 31.53 and the 100 medley in 1:04.24.

Dugan won the 100 fly in 1:05.37, and Zingale won the 50 fly in 28.11.

Dugan said "we had fun swimming against Norwich because we got to race events we don't normally do...a bunch of us set pool records."

Juniors Emily Depew, Gabrielle Sergi, and Carly Hinkle also posted wins in the dominating performance.

Both teams then traveled to Middlebury, Vermont, to take on the Panthers. Despite a pair of close meets, both the men and the women left Vermont with losses.

The men fell 176-122, while the women went down 186-108.

Gagne won the 200 butterfly and the 200 medley.

For the men, Andrew Briggs and Matthew Gagne once again came away

with wins in multiple events. Briggs won the 100 and 200 breaststroke, and

Senior captain Travis Jones had a big day as well, winning both the 1 meter and 3 meters diving events.


Gabrielle Sergi led the way for the women, winning the 50 freestyle in 24.81 and the 100 freestyle in 54.73 seconds.

Sophomore Sarah Bouchard and senior Dugan took the top two places in the 1650 freestyle, a feat matched by freshman Whitney Pain and junior Emily Depew in the 100 backstroke.

Dugan noted that the Bobcats were at a disadvantage without diver Franny Yanover, but that the meet was "a good opportunity for us to see where we are in terms of shape and racing."

The Lady Cats did finish the meet strong, with Sergi, Hannah Chory, Emilie Geissinger, and Caroline Depew taking the 400 free relay in 3:41.68.

Both the men and the women will be back in action on January 18th at 6 PM, when the Bobcats host Bowdoin.



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It's an SEC World: We're just living in it

ALEX HENRIE
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

On January 7th, 2007, the SEC was just the Southeastern Conference, an unknown commodity in a college football world that lionized coaches who pounded the table about the merits of size and strength, and of the ability to line up and run the football, and the supposedly miniscule chance that the speed of the Southeastern Conference could match up with the brute strength of, well, everyone else.

On January 7th, 2007, people scoffed at the idea that the spread option could even exist in major college football. They laughed at my Florida Gators, mocked the fact that they had the audacity to even line up against a program like THE Ohio State University.

On January 8th, 2007, a dynasty was born.

January 8th was the day that the Southeastern Conference grew up and became the SEC. It was the day that the old conventions of size and strength were replaced by speed and athleticism, and the axis of power in college football shifted from somewhere in the Midwest to smack in the middle of the South.

Try as the rest of the country might, that axis hasn't shifted since January 8th, 2007. Oh, there have been valiant and worthy challengers, but all amounted to nothing more than quixotic dreamers; knights riding up a mountain only to be roasted alive by the dragon lurking at the top.

The Big 10 came back for another helping of SEC pie the very next year, only to have Ohio State get blown out for a second consecutive time, this time by LSU. Then the Big 12 wanted a turn and sent Oklahoma, only to have the highest scoring offense in history get neutered by Tim Tebow's powerful 2008 Florida squad (as if I wouldn't find a way to include the Chosen One).

The following year, they sent Texas, who left with a broken quarterback and a shattered psyche after being brutal-

ized by what now we know was the first team in Nick Saban's current Alabama dynasty.

The Pac-12 finally broke into the championship mix in 2010; Oregon's reward was facing Cam Newton, who did just enough to extend the SEC's streak to five.

The SEC decided it was tired of toying with the rest of college football, so in 2011, it sent two teams to the championship game. Alabama (sensing a trend?) whitewashed LSU, 21-0.

That brings us to the most recent affirmation of the SEC dynasty, and for me, the most satisfying (games involving Florida notwithstanding).

I am referring, of course, to the event between Alabama and Notre Dame that took place on January 7th. To call this event a game seems strange; this "game" was over by the end of the first quarter, and the second, third, and fourth quarters were spent hoping for another shot of Alabama quarterback AJ McCarron's girlfriend, if only so viewers could be treated to another Brent Musberger meltdown as he fawned over a woman roughly fifty years his junior. If you are a male who somehow did not see the ten million shots of Ms. Katherine Webb that ESPN displayed in the final three quarters of that game, give it a Google (or a Bing, if there's anyone on earth who actually does that) and thank me later.

But I digress. The national championship game this year told us several things. These are things that we should not have forgotten, but that some people have in the era of the 30-second news cycle and the unceasing search for the next storyline.

The first truth: the SEC dynasty is as strong as ever. The whispers that the conference has an overinflated view of itself grew louder this year, and intensified following Florida's admittedly gutless loss to Louisville in the Sugar Bowl.

ESPN ran dopey articles claiming that the SEC was "top-heavy" and other conferences were deeper, even as the SEC's fifth-best team (Texas A&M)



HYOSUB SHIN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

took a giant, steaming you-know-what on the Big 12's second-best team (Oklahoma) and Jadeveon Clowney obliterated the entire state of Michigan with one hit (again, worth a Google).

However, the sheer lack of resistance Alabama faced in dismantling Notre Dame's best team since 1988 should reestablish the idea that the SEC is on a different level than the rest of the country. That a national championship containing what are supposed to be the two best teams in the country can be so one-sided clearly illustrates something about the victors. The fact that multiple SEC teams have been on the right end of a blowout (Florida, LSU, and Alabama, twice) demonstrates that regardless of which team the SEC spits out at the end of the year, it will be significantly better than the overmatched opponent lined up on the other side of the ball. The reality is that until someone knocks the SEC off of the mountaintop, this league remains the Rome of college football. And whatever analysts or casual observers say, there is no rebuttal for the friendly reminder that the SEC has won the last seven national championships, has never lost in the championship game to a non-SEC team, and has shown no signs of slowing down.

The second, more immediate truth: Notre Dame is not back, and you're a fool if you thought they were. If Notre Dame is "back", then so are bell-bottoms and afros on white people. This

isn't to say that Notre Dame didn't have a good season, because they did. They still did go 12-1, and they still did have the program's best season since 1988. To give you an idea of how long ago that is, we were best buds with Al Qaeda back then. So yeah, it's been a while coming for the Golden Domers.

But still. It took Alabama less than three minutes to completely blow up what ESPN had spent almost a month and a half carefully crafting: the idea of Notre Dame as a legitimate contender. Three minutes is all the time it took Alabama to take the opening kickoff, march down the field into the end zone, and make it very clear that Manti Te'o's bunch should have needed VIP passes to get onto the field of Sun Life Stadium that night.

So no, Notre Dame is not back. Maybe they will be in 2013; they're certainly a team to keep an eye on. But they're not back until they can show up on the national stage and avoid soiling themselves before the national anthem is done playing.

The third, and final truth: to paraphrase the great philosopher and booty club frequenter 2 Chainz, Alabama (and by extension, the rest of the SEC) is different. They're different in the sense that when they get up in the morning, they think about winning. When they eat meals, they think about winning. When they're with their family or friends, they think about winning. Winning is all

Nick Saban and his players care about, and it's why they are head and shoulders above everyone else in the country right now. I realize this article is more about the continued dominance of the SEC as a whole, but the team that has won three of the last four national championships and the coach who adheres as closely to Bear Bryant's dictatorial style as one possibly can in today's extra-sensitive era deserve unlimited praise. Nick Saban is a living legend, and I am thankful that I get to watch him coach in his prime.

But what about 2013 and beyond? Alabama will lose a lot, but the replacements stepping in are better than most teams' first-stringers.

Florida was a fumble away from being in the title game this year; they'll be a threat, along with Georgia, LSU, Texas A&M, and South Carolina. Put simply, the SEC will be fine. Call it homerism, but I think the only way the SEC is left out of next year's BCS National Championship game is if the league cannibalizes itself and Oregon and another team (Ohio State, perhaps?) remain undefeated.

The championship process will get more SEC-friendly in 2014, when a four-team playoff arrives. Don't think that favors the SEC? Three of the top four teams (and six of the top ten) in the final regular season BCS standings this year were from the SEC. A playoff certainly gives more teams a chance at a national title, but it is likely that the majority of those teams will be from the Southeastern Conference. As incredible as the last seven years of SEC dominance have been, it's possible that the league is far from finished atop its throne.

There is a saying that states: "It's not the destination, but the journey that matters". If January 8th, 2007 was the beginning of the SEC's journey, January 7th, 2013 was merely another point along the way. In fact, as far as I can tell, the SEC's journey is far from over, with no end in sight.

Women's basketball sweeps CBB play

AJ DEBENEDICTIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After a tough start in NESCAC play, the Bates women's basketball team entered last weekend in search of their first league win.

The Bobcats did themselves one better, spending Friday and Saturday beating up on their Maine rivals on the way to a 2-0 weekend and an outright sweep of CBB play.

On Friday, Bates traveled to Waterville to take on the Mules of Colby College. Much as they did early in the year, the Bobcats led throughout the game on their way to a 60-48 victory.

Although Colby kept things close for much of the first half, the Lady Cats broke the game wide open with a 19-5 run over the final five minutes of the first half. What had been a fairly even affair turned into a 39-17 blowout, and the rout was on.

Bates kept up the pressure in the second half, and cruised to the comfortable margin of victory.

The Bobcats were led by guards Meredith Kelly and Molly Brown, who put up 19 and 15 points, respectively.

Senior Brianna Hawkins added 12 points and a game-high 7 rebounds as the Bobcats dominated in nearly every statistical category in the victory.

After returning home for the night, the Bobcats then made the short trip to Brunswick. Whatever theatrics the matchup with Colby lacked were more than made up for in Saturday's 67-64 win at Bowdoin.



Julia Rafferty '14. KARA GARLAND / THE BATES STUDENT

Fresh off crossing the thousand-point plateau for her career, senior Allie Beaulieu poured in a career-high 26 points in the thrilling victory, while Molly Brown added 23 points of her own. Beaulieu and Brown combined for more than two-thirds of the Bobcats' points on the day.

Bates started off hot in the first half, shooting 48% on their way to a 41-26 lead. Just as they did against Colby, the Bobcats used a run at the end of the first half to carry momentum into halftime. This time, it was a 16-5 run in the final six minutes of the half that provided the lopsided margin at the break.

However, the Polar Bears roared to life in the second half, and managed to slice the Bates lead to a single point with under a minute to play.

Bowdoin actually had two chances

to win in the final seconds, but both shots missed and Beaulieu hit two free throws with under a second to play to provide the final margin of victory.

"It was great beating them earlier this season, but it was even better beating them when it really counted in NESCAC play" junior guard Meredith Kelly stated.

With the win, the Lady Bobcats improved to 8-7 on the season, including a 2-2 record in NESCAC play. Perhaps more importantly, the sweep of both rival Maine schools represents the first outright CBB title for the women's basketball team in nearly a decade.

Bates will look to continue their recent string of success as they host Connecticut College in a NESCAC game on Friday at 8pm.

Women's squash opens 2013 play

ALEX HENRIE
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Fresh out of winter break, the women's squash team, ranked thirteenth nationally, traveled to Boston to take on Harvard University.

The top-ranked Crimson shut out Bates, who were playing without sophomore All-American Nesrine Ariffin, their number one player. Junior Rakey Drammeh, freshman Lauren Williams, and senior Ali Bragg all played well, but could not come away with an elusive victory.

The Lady Cats were back in action two days later for Senior Night against Bowdoin. A strong team effort resulted in an 8-1 victory for the hosts, who got wins from senior captains Cheri-Ann Parris and Ali Bragg.

Bragg said that Senior Night is "always a fun match to come out on top of," while also mentioning the outpouring of support from "faculty, family, and students."

Parris won her match in four sets (11-7, 9-11, 11-3, 11-5), while Bragg won in three sets (11-6, 11-5, 12-10).

Sophomores Myriam Kelly, Chloe Mitchell, and Lesa Bourke all won in four sets at number two, three, and four, respectively.

With the win, the Lady Cats moved to 3-3 on the season, and 2-0 in NESCAC play.

Their undefeated league record would only last until the next day against Trinity. The Bantams, ranked third nationally, had little trouble with the visiting Bobcats, taking a decisive 9-0 match.

Bates did not win a set on the afternoon, although Parris was competitive in defeat, losing an 11-4, 11-8, 11-2 decision. Freshman Lauren Williams and Drammeh were also tough in their losses.

The Bobcats ended their tough opening week in Williamstown, Massachusetts, against the tenth-ranked Williams Ephs, falling 6-3.

No. 1 player Nesrine Ariffin returned to action for the first time in three matches and won her opening set, but was forced to retire in the second because of injury.

Cheri-Ann Parris came back from a 2-1 deficit to win her match in five sets at the No. 2 spot, 15-13, 6-11, 9-11, 11-4, 11-9.

Rakey Drammeh continued her strong week with a five set victory at No. 7, 11-8, 6-11, 9-11, 11-4, 11-6. Fellow junior Samantha Matos was the only other Bates player to score a win on the day with a tight four set win, 11-9, 3-11, 11-8, 11-7.

Bragg said that the Bobcats "did not get all the results we were hoping for," but added "that means we will just fight that much harder when we meet them again at NESCACs in February."

Bates hosted Amherst on Tuesday, and will travel to Yale this weekend for a series of matches against Stanford, Cornell, Franklin & Marshall, and Dartmouth.

RG-Knee? Don't blame Shanahan

MATT FERREN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For anyone who watched last weekend's contest between the Seattle Seahawks and Washington Redskins, it would have been hard to miss the pain through which Washington rookie phenom Robert Griffin III played. After aggravating a knee injury he suffered weeks ago during the first quarter, Griffin stayed in the game. While game, Griffin was clearly hurt and the Redskins were defeated 24-14. With the loss, a promising Redskins season was ended and their Super Bowl hopes dashed.

Post-game diagnoses by team doctors and the omnipresent Dr. James Andrews showed the RGIII had suffered partial tears to both his ACL and LCL. These would be catastrophic injuries for any athlete, but especially for a quarterback who relies heavily on his mobility, and fans and the media were left to wonder whether the situation could have been handled differently.

Criticism was directed at two places; the organization, and coach Mike Shanahan.

For some, the key concern was RGIII's health. Why would an organization that had given up so much (essentially three first round draft picks) to draft RGIII, a quarterback whose ceiling appears, at present, to be limitless, unnecessarily risk his long-term health for the sake of analysts lauded his toughness, it was clear that RGIII lacked the mobility to quarterback effectively.

Despite RGIII's severe physical limitations, Redskins head coach Mike Shanahan chose to keep Griffin in the game. Though it was clear Griffin could barely play, he stayed in the game until a fourth-quarter slip buckled his knee and left him on the ground in agony. With this injury, it was clear he could no longer play, though it had come too late for back-up Kirk Cousins to salvage the winning a single game? These complaints were only amplified in light of the recent increase in awareness over player safety. A second set of concerns centered on the game itself.

Why did Griffin continue to play when it was clear his gallant, but subpar performance was hurting the team, especially when Cousins had proven himself to be a more than capable back-up earlier in the season?

In either case, the majority of the post-game criticism was directed to-



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wards Shanahan's handling of the situation. In hindsight, it becomes relatively clear that Shanahan should have pulled Griffin after his initial injury, regardless of how vocal he was about his ability to play. And yet, for all those criticizing Shanahan's decision-making, I would caution you to direct your blame, not towards him, but to the "win-now" environment in league in which he coaches.

In the NFL, the only thing that matters is winning; it is a "what-have-you-done-for-me-lately" environment. Celebrated as he is, Mike Shanahan was under the same bright light that every other coach deals with. At the end of every season, several coaches lose their jobs. Just recently, Jacksonville's Mike Mularkey was fired after only one season while Philadelphia's Andy Reid was shown the door after years of winning football in that city.

The message is clear: no coach is safe if they can't win. The Redskins, owned by Dan Snyder, one of the most impulsive men in all of pro sports, would shed no tears by cutting ties with Shanahan if they were so inclined. Even for teams that make the playoffs one year, there is no guarantee they will do so the next. Thus, each team must do whatever it can to seize every opportunity it gets, regardless of future consequences.

In short, Griffin stayed in the game, not because Shanahan was stupid or uncaring of his own players, but because when the quarterback who had taken him to playoffs adamantly told him he could play, he let him play. Shanahan gambled, and he lost in the worst way possible; he later admitted after that game that he had erred in his decision-making. But for all you Shana-haters, consider the pressure to win that he faced. To use another cliché, when the chips were down, Shanahan danced with the girl who brought him.

Men's track and field wins Tufts Invitational, women place third

DOUG STEINBERG
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

In an impressive showing, the #8 nationally-ranked men's track and field team took home first place out of ten teams at the Tufts Invitational on Saturday, while the women's team also performed well by placing third.

While the men's team did win the overall tournament, the Bobcats actually only won three individual events. Two of these wins came from an impressive performance from senior thrower and two-time NCAA champion David Pless, who won the shot put (17.75 meters) and the weight throw (17.65 meters).

Bates' other win came from senior James LePage, who won the 800 meters with a time of 1:55.22.

In the mile run, junior Tully Hannan came in second at 4:18.80, while senior Anthony Haeuser came in second in the 60-meter hurdles at 8.67 seconds. Also performing well were junior John Wisener, who came in third in the pole vault (4.25 meters), and sophomore Eric Wainman placed third in the high jump at 1.19 meters.

The women's team used its strength in distance events to separate from most of the other teams, being edged only by Tufts and UMass-Lowell.

"Coming into the season, our strengths definitely showed in our distance and middle-distance events," explained senior Lindsay Cullen, "Distance-wise, we have 6 of our top 7 runners from the nationals cross country team all competing, which is a definite strength since so many are coming off of that season in excellent shape."

Cullen and freshman Hannah Zeltner placed first and second, respectively, in the 3,000 meters, with times of 10:32.35 and 10:51.42.

Bates also won two other individual events, as sophomore Sarah Fusco placed first in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:21.83 and junior Amanda Solch won the mile run with a time of 5:22.03.

Also performing well were senior Bud Arens, who came in second in the 1,000 meters at 3:03.12 and freshman Melanie Ehrenberg, who placed second in pole-vaulting at 2.90 meters.

Additionally, Bates took home first place in the 4x800 relay with a time of 10:10.05 behind strong efforts from Solch, junior Kallie Nixon, freshman Isabelle Unger, and senior Lisa Reedich. The 4x400 relay team of Arens, Fusco, Ehrenberg, and sophomore Amelia Oliver placed second at 4:10.05.

While Bates' strength clearly comes from distance events, Cullen noted that, "The biggest surprise thus far is absolutely the strength and work ethic of the sprint and field event athletes. Watching them practice and push each other to the limit in workouts really demonstrates that the sprints will be our biggest surprise this year in competition. I think other teams assume that our middle-distance and distance runners will win events, but soon they'll find out we have so much depth in the points in bigger meets."

The two teams will look to build on the success they have already had this season when they host the Bates Pentathlon on Friday and the Bates Invitational on Saturday in Merrill Gym.



NESCAC

Standings

Men's Basketball

Team	Conf.	Overall
Middlebury	4-0	14-0
Williams	4-0	15-1
Amherst	3-0	13-2
Bowdoin	2-1	9-4
Tufts	2-2	8-7
Colby	1-2	4-9
Trinity	1-2	7-9
Bates	1-3	6-10
Hamilton	1-3	8-8
Wesleyan	1-3	7-9
Conn. Coll.	0-4	5-10

Women's Basketball

Team	Conf.	Overall
Tufts	4-0	16-0
Amherst	3-0	15-0
Williams	3-1	13-2
Trinity	2-1	10-5
Bates	2-2	8-7
Middlebury	2-2	8-7
Bowdoin	1-2	8-6
Colby	1-2	6-8
Conn. Coll.	1-3	6-9
Wesleyan	1-3	7-8
Hamilton	0-4	7-8

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